

## DECHIFFRER UN TITRE DE JOURNAL

**OBSERVE**

Les titres suivants se comprennent facilement :

- a) PARTY MAN KILLED BY 32 WHISKIES  
 b) ANIMAL LOVER EATEN BY LIONS  
 c) HEARD THE ONE ABOUT MAN WHO SAVED HIS MUM-IN-LAW FROM DROWNING ?

**SCAN**

1. The first word of title **a)** is missing. Write it : A

In sentences **b)** and **c)** a word of the same category has been omitted. Which one ?

	Omitted word :	Before the noun :
<b>Title b)</b>	an	animal lover
<b>Title c)</b>	the	man

In title **a)** which verb (before "killed") has been omitted ? **was**

Which auxiliary verbs have been omitted before the following words ?

<b>Title b)</b>	has been	eaten
<b>Title c)</b>	have	[you] heard

**DRAW YOUR CONCLUSIONS**

Très souvent dans un titre les **articles** sont supprimés devant les noms. De même les verbes **auxiliaires** sont omis.

Ces **auxiliaires** indiquent si le titre est à la voix **active** ou **passive**.

**THINK**

2. The main topic of article **a)** is : (Tick the right answer)

- The dangers of alcohol       politics       free drinks       murderers

What made you conclude so ? **The words party man = s.o who likes to party (often associated with have drinks) + 32 whiskies.**

The main topic of article **b)** is : (Tick the right answer)

- The protection of animals       A drama in a zoo       Dangerous animals should be killed       Lions become dangerous in cages

What made you conclude so ? **We can suppose it's in a zoo bcse Lions.**

The main topic of article **c)** is : (Tick the right answer)

- An accident in a family       A man who likes telling stories       Being a mother-in-law is dangerous       A courageous rescuer

What made you conclude so ? **Saved from drowning.**

**SCAN**

3. In these three titles what are the key verbs ?

- a) killed**                                      **b) eaten**                                      **c) saved**

They give the main information.

Now write all that follows the three verbs in the three titles :

- a) by 32 whiskies**                      **b) by lions**

- c) his mum-in-law from drowning**

These elements give the topic of the article.

**DRAW YOUR CONCLUSIONS**

Pour découvrir le sujet d' un article considérez d' abord le **verbe** (s' il y a en a un), puis ses **compléments** directs ou non.

**OBSERVE**

Voici trois autres titres moins évidents à la lecture :

- d) FROGS MIGHT HAVE THE LEGS TO SLAM US**

=écraser

- e) MP PAYS THE PRICE**

- f) SEXY SALON SIREN DENISE TAKES TV'S SOAP BY STORM**

## THINK

4. Considering the verbs and the complements, find which area the article is related to (Match by drawing lines).

- d) have the legs → justice  
e) pays the price → business  
f) takes TV's soap → sport
- show-business  
medicine  
health

5. Write down the grammatical subjects of the three titles :

d) **frogs**                      e) **MP**                      f) **Sexy salon siren Denise**

On ne peut comprendre ces titres que si :

d) on sait que les Français sont souvent appelés "frogs" ou "froggies" par les Anglais.

e) on sait que "MP" est l'abréviation de "Member of Parliament".

f) on lit les éléments du sujet de droite à gauche : Denise Siren Salon Sexy.

Remarquez que dans le titre **f)**, deux consonnes sont répétées : **s** et **n**.

C'est ce qu'on appelle une allitération.

6. Write the other title in which you can find an alliteration :

**MP pays the price**

## CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

7. Here is the topic of an article : "A child ran away from home and spent the whole night near the chimp cage in the zoo. "We get on so well together" he declared the following morning".

Here are two headlines for this story:

a) CHILD CHOSE CHIMPS

b) CHIMPS PREFERRED TO PARENTS BY YOUNG CHARLIE

What devices are used in :

a) **Active form + Alliteration in CH**

b) **Passive form**

8. Here is the topic of another article : "In Zambia, the ecologists press for<sup>1</sup> specific areas (called zones) for wild animals, especially zebras".

Imagine a title in four words :

**Zambia pressed for zebras zones**

<sup>1</sup> faire pression pour obtenir qqchse

## EXERCISES:

See document entitled *News Headlines*.

## HOMEWORK:

Choose one of the headlines and write a news report to go with it.

**'Flying car'  
wrecks house**

**Hairy monster  
ruined Dad's  
dinner**

**WHY MEN TURN  
INTO  
MONSTERS**

to wreck = démolir